**Mathematics**

**Constructing a Learning Progression**

Step 1: **Identify Big Idea**

❒ Identify the big idea for a unit in your curriculum from the Cluster for your grade level or course in the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSSM), keeping the following points in mind:

* Create learning progressions for curricular aims that are complex, cognitive skills.

To help decide whether an idea is worthy of consideration for building a learning progress, consider the questions below.

* Will this skill take more than a class session or two to teach?
* Will this skill be applicable in a wide range of subsequent situations, either in school or in the non-school world?
* Is this skill a foundation for future learning either in this course or in courses students will be taking down the line?

**Step 2: Identify Building Blocks**

❒ Identify all the necessary concepts, knowledge, and skills a student would need to know to be able to reach the unit big idea, keeping the following questions in mind:

* What must students know and be able to do in order to master this idea?
* What is the optimal number of building blocks given the complexity of the skill?
* Is each building block *necessary* in order to build the big idea?
* Is each building block assessable without overwhelming teacher and/ or students?

Turn to your CCSSM standards for your grade level for help identifying the necessary concepts, knowledge, and skills.

❒ Write each piece of information separately on a small post-it.

**Step 3: Determine Method to Assess Student Understanding of Each Building Block**

❒ Decide how to assess student understanding of each building block on a post-it and attach to the building block.

❒ Remove all building block post-its that you cannot measure.

* If a building block cannot be measured, it cannot be part of the learning progression. These blocks should be eliminated, but first think about if, and/ or, in which, remaining block that knowledge or skill remains embedded.

**Step 4: Determine A Logical Sequence**

❒ Determine the order that is likely to be the best order for most students.

* Place your building blocks in the order you think they should be taught.
* Fill in your learning progression template with the information from your post-its.
* Don’t forget there is no one correct order.

**Step 5: Throw Out Unnecessary Portions of Chapter or Section**

❒ If your math curriculum contains other ideas that do not help build the big idea for your unit- ignore them or throw them out.